

B1

21. (Amended) Apparatus for processing billing information through a private switched network telephone system for offering pay per view amenities to a user at an amenity device within a facility, the apparatus comprising:

a telephone at said facility and connected to said private switched network telephone system by a telephone line, said telephone for transmitting and receiving information on said line;

a line powered card reader connected to said telephone for reading credit cards and extracting billing information therefrom;

a power supply connected to said line and said card reader for converting power of said line to a power supply voltage with sufficient current to power said card reader;

a processor connected to said card reader and said telephone for controlling said card reader to extract said billing information from said credit card and for transmitting said extracted billing information on said line;

a billing computer connected to said telephone system for receiving and validating said transmitted billing information; and

a central distribution box located at said facility and connected without said private switched network telephone system directly to said amenity device for facilitating the offer of a pay per view offering responsive to said billing computer validation.

[Please amend claim 23 as follows:]

B2

23. (Amended) A method of user access to movies at an amenity location, the method comprising:

providing a store-and-forward switch (SFS) connected at said amenity location for facilitating the offer of a movie by collecting user information and initiating a routine for the offer of the movie responsive to receipt of a validation;

providing a central billing computer connected to said SFS for validating said offer;

providing a telephone connected to said central billing computer through the SFS for user input to said central billing computer of user billing information and movie identification information, wherein said user input of billing and movie identification information through the telephone comprises:

reading user credit card information with a card reader connected to said telephone;

buffering in said telephone said read credit card information;

offering selectable movie identification information to said user, said movie identification information being buffered as selectable DTMF tones in said telephone; and

responsive to user selection of said offered movie identification information and said stored credit card information, connecting said telephone to said ~~remote~~ central billing computer for validation;

responsive to said user input, validating in said central billing computer said user billing information; and

responsive to said validation, said central billing computer instructing said SFS to activate said movie at said amenity location.

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